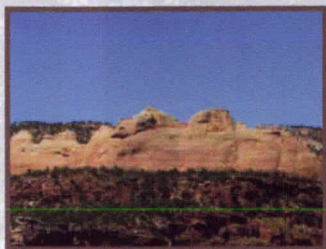




1. Loma Boat Launch

River Left (0.0mi)

Looking directly south at faulted rock units. Notice the elevation difference of the smooth slickrock; low in the foreground and high in the background.



2. Rattlesnake Canyon

River Left (3.2mi)

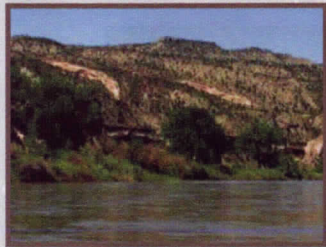
Unusual slickrock formations mark the mouth of the canyon. Faulted units, alcoves and arches can be seen in the background.



3. Steve's Loop

River Right (5.25mi)

Sheer cliffs of Entrada Sandstone mark two small, deep canyons. The brightly colored striated Morrison Formation, rich in dinosaur fossils, caps the Entrada.



4. Folded Sandstone

River Left (6.6mi)

Without the exposure of the Entrada Sandstone slickrock, it would be nearly impossible to view this deformed and folded area caused by thrust faulting.



5. Fault Line

River Right (10.2mi)

This section of faulted, folded and warped rock is an amazing site from all angles. Notice the evident offset of units; here the west flank is riding over the east.



6. Fault Line

River Left (10.4mi)

Erosion has helped to exaggerate the deformation and faulted rocks. Though these two rock types appear to be offset, they are folded rather than ruptured.

THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE CANYON CONTINUES...



7. Fault #2

River Right (12.8 mi)

Terminating in the canyon, a thrust fault deformed the rocks, evident by tilted and offset Wingate sandstone beds. The monument just to the east is undeformed.



8. Monocline with Mine

River Right (16 mi)

These folded rocks have been distorted by a fault that does not reach the surface. The uplift here has not been great enough to break and offset the rocks.



9. Start of Black Rocks

River Left & Right (16.2mi)

These rocks, the oldest in the MCNCA average 1.7 billion years old. High in iron, their erosional products became the parent material for the red sandstones.



10. Terraced Alcoves

River Left (19.5mi)

Stacked on top of each other, these alcoves are an expression of areas of weakness within beds of Wingate sandstone that get scoured out by waterfalls.



11. Colorado/Utah Border

River Right (20.9mi)

This border sign was painted by the railroad in the early 1900's onto Wingate sandstone, an erosion resistant rock. It is touched up every few years.

Bureau of Land Management

McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area

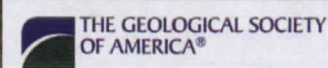
2815 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado, 81506

(970)244-3000

<http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/nca/mcnca.html>

GEOLOGIC TOUR OF THE COLORADO RIVER

RUBY-HORSETHIEF CANYONS



McINNIS CANYONS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

E

EASTERN SECTION

START W



E

← TO WESTWATER

WESTERN SECTION

W

